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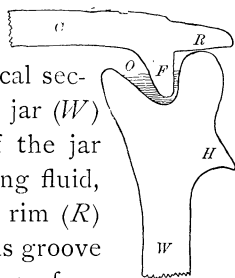
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A SEALING STONE JAR FOR ZOÖLOGICAL LABORATORIES.

J. B. JOHNSTON.

THE jar described below was designed as a cheap sealing jar for class use and for the storage of large specimens or of material in quantity for future use. It has been in use since 1898 in three universities in this country, and is now described, since it has proved more satisfactory for the purposes indicated than any other jar known to me. Its cost is inconsiderable when compared with that of glass jars of equal capacity. It has the additional advantages of greater durability and ease of opening and resealing.

The accompanying sketch shows a vertical section of the upper part of the wall of the jar (*W*) and a part of the cover (*C*). The rim of the jar bears a groove (*O*) to be filled with a sealing fluid, indicated by the horizontal shading. The rim (*R*) or edge of the cover projects well beyond this groove to keep out dust. There is upon the under surface of the cover a dependent flange (*F*) fitting into the groove (*O*), so that when the latter is filled with a fluid the jar is sealed. The cover is provided with a knob for lifting, and the rim of the jar, with handles (*H*).



The jars are made by the Zanesville Stoneware Company, Zanesville, Ohio, in the following sizes, inside measurement in inches :

Depth . . .	8	8	12	12	24
Diameter . .	10	12	10	12	12

I have tried a number of sealing fluids before anything suitable for permanent sealing was found. For daily class use it is sufficient to fill the groove with water. Indeed, the mere empty groove reduces the rate of evaporation very considerably, since the alcohol or other vapor must pass downward

to escape beneath the flange. For permanent sealing, glycerine is useless with alcohol, and most available oils "creep" so rapidly that the groove is soon emptied. However, a heavy paraffin oil, obtainable from the Edison Manufacturing Company of New York City, being free from this characteristic, and non-volatile, makes an excellent sealing medium.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY, MORGANTOWN,
October 4, 1900.